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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE .	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
09/925,519	08/10/2001	Luca Chiarabini	60004035-3	4981
7590 04/16/2007			EXAMINER	
	ACKARD COMPANY			
Intellectual Property Administration				
P. O. Box 272400			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
Fort Collins, C	O 80527-2400			
			DATE MAILED: 04/16/200	9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Application No. Applicant(s) Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief CHIARABINI ET AL. 09/925.519 (37 CFR 41.37) Examiner Art Unit 3625 James H. Zurita -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

The Appeal Brief filed on 8 <u>December 2006</u> is defective for failure to comply with one or more provisions of 37 CFR 41.37. To avoid dismissal of the appeal, applicant must file anamended brief or other appropriate correction (see MPEP 1205.03) within **ONE MONTH or THIRTY DAYS** from the mailing date of this Notification, whichever is longer. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136. The brief does not contain the items required under 37 CFR 41.37(c), or the items are not under the proper heading or in the proper order. The brief does not contain a statement of the status of all claims, (e.g., rejected, allowed, withdrawn, objected to, canceled), or does not identify the appealed claims (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(iii)). 3. At least one amendment has been filed subsequent to the final rejection, and the brief does not contain a statement of the status of each such amendment (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(iv)). (a) The brief does not contain a concise explanation of the subject matter defined in each of the independent claims involved in the appeal, referring to the specification by page and line number and to the drawings, if any, by reference characters; and/or (b) the brief fails to: (1) identify, for each independent claim involved in the appeal and for each dependent claim argued separately, every means plus function and step plus function under 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, and/or (2) set forth the structure, material, or acts described in the specification as corresponding to each claimed function with reference to the specification by page and line number, and to the drawings, if any, by reference characters (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(v)). The brief does not contain a concise statement of each ground of rejection presented for review (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(vi)) The brief does not present an argument under a separate heading for each ground of rejection on appeal (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(vii)). The brief does not contain a correct copy of the appealed claims as an appendix thereto (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(viii)). The brief does not contain copies of the evidence submitted under 37 CFR 1.130, 1.131, or 1.132 or of any other evidence entered by the examiner and relied upon by appellant in the appeal, along with a statement setting forth where in the record that evidence was entered by the examiner, as an appendix thereto (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(ix)). The brief does not contain copies of the decisions rendered by a court or the Board in the proceeding identified in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of the brief as an appendix thereto (37 CFR 41.37(c)(1)(x)). Other (including any explanation in support of the above items): see attached.



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## BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Application Number: 09/925,519 Filing Date: August 10, 2001 Appellant(s): CHIARABINI ET AL.

**MAILED** 

APR 16 2007

**GROUP 3600** 

Michael K. Colby For Appellant

NOTICE OF DEFECTIVE APPEAL BRIEF

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 18 December 2006 appealing from the Office action mailed 3 January 2006.

The Appeal Brief improperly identifies issues that are petitionable and, on pages 18-25, presents substantive arguments to a petitionable matter.

The line of demarcation between appealable matters for the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (Board) and petitionable matters for the \*\*>Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (Director)< should be carefully observed. The Board will not ordinarily hear a question \*\*>that< should be decided by the \*>Director on petition<, and the \*>Director< will not ordinarily entertain a petition where the question presented is \*\*>a matter appealable to the Board<. However, since 37 CFR 1.181(f) states that any petition not filed within 2 months from the action complained of may be dismissed as untimely and since 37 CFR 1.144 states that petitions from restriction requirements must be filed no later than appeal, petitionable matters will rarely be present in a case by the time it is before the Board for a decision. In re Watkinson, 900 F.2d 230, 14 USPQ2d 1407 (Fed. Cir. 1990). MPEP 1201.

The Appeal will be dismissed if Appellant does not timely file an amended brief, or files an amended brief that does not overcome all the reasons for noncompliance of which the Appellant was notified. MPEP 1205.03.

## Conclusion

Appellant is required to comply with provisions of 37 CFR 41.37(c). To avoid dismissal of the appeal, Appellant must comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 41.37(c) within ONE MONTH or THIRTY DAYS, whichever is longer, from the mailing of this communication. Extensions of time may be granted under 37 CFR 1.136.

A substitute brief must comply with 37 CFR § 41.37(c). For more information on the Rules of Practice before the BPAI (effective 13 September 2004), see http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/dcom/bpai/fr2004/moreinfo.html

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James H. Zurita whose telephone number is 571-272-6766. The examiner can normally be reached on 8a-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey A. Smith can be reached on 571-272-6763. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

James Zurita
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3625
10 November 2006

JAMES ZURITA PRIMARY EXAMINER

Jan Zuk